

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 00156 120819Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 ACDA-12
TRSE-00 EB-08 AID-05 /119 W
-----126401 120828Z /17

R 120547Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6859
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USINT HAVANA
USMISSION USNATO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 0156

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, ET, UR, US
SUBJ: SOVIET AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA

REF: A. USINFO 062131Z JAN 78 (NOTAL), B. AFRICA
WIRELESS FILE NO 5, ITEM 3 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY ADDIS NOTES DIFFERING SPECULATION ABOUT REASONS
FOR CURRENT SLOWDOWN OF SOVIET AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA IN ARTI-
CLES BY GEORGE WILSON (WASHPOST JAN 6) AND DREW
MIDDLETON (NYTIMES JAN 8.). WILSON ARTICLE SUGGESTS US
PROTESTS OF SOVIET OVERFLIGHTS MAY HAVE HAD IMPACT UPON
WHAT WRITER TERMS SUSPENSION OF AIRLIFT. MIDDLETON, HOW-
EVER, SPECULATES AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA ONLY PART OF LARGER
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EXERCISE TO TEST SOVIET AIR FORCE ABILITY TO MOVE
SUPPLIES AND TROOPS TO NORTHEAST AFRICA AND MIDDLE
EAST, AND NOW THAT EXERCISE FAIRLY COMPLETED AIRLIFT
TO ETHIOPIA APPEARS MUCH LESS EXTENSIVE.

2. FROM LIMITED ADDIS VANTAGE IT DIFFICULT TO ASSESS
OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF US PROTESTS, BUT SOVIET AIR-

LIFT IS CONTINUING, ALBEIT AT SLOWER PACE. IT ALSO
DIFFICULT TO KNOW IF AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA PART OF
LARGER SOVIET EXERCISE, AND REQUEST DEPT EVALUATION
OF VALIDITY OF MIDDLETON ARTICLE. IN ANY CASE, TRE-
MENDOUS QUANTITIES OF SOVIET SUPPLIES STILL ARRIVING
IN ETHIOPIA, BOTH BY AIR AND SEA.
MATHERON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRLIFTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA
TAGS: MASS, ET, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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